

1045 PRATT AVENUE  
ROGERS PARK  
CHICAGO

22 December, 1907

My dear Dr. Benson:

The kindness and courtesy of your two letters deserved, and would have received quicker reply but for an absence from Chicago which has been extended much beyond my expectations; and I take the earliest possible opportunity on my return to thank you for them.

The 1782 "Collection of hymns" in your possession is indeed a rarity. I have never seen a reference to it in twenty-five years of diligent collecting titles for my work. I consider it a great find for my next volume, and would have been sorry to have missed it. Is there anything about the hymns which denote their

denominational tendency? If Baptist, it may have been printed by Aitken; but the irregular typography you note seems to indicate either Benjamin Towne's or Enoch Story's Press.

The important part exercised by Dr. Watts's Psalms, and Hymns in the spiritual and literary thought of our ancestors is well brought out in your monograph. To me it is very instructive and interesting, and will be a stimulus and help to me in gleanings along the path you have made, so that the student of the future may benefit from our mutual interest in the subject.

For the kindness of your suggestion in the matter of a set of the American Bibliography for the Presbyterian Historical Society, I am truly grateful. The work is being carried on on a small margin, and the loss of an

individual subscriber means as much  
in one way, as the gain of an institution  
does in the other. Individuals and firms  
lapse, but Institutions endure. I have  
only two copies of Vol. I. out in Philadelphia  
which are liable to have been disposed of.  
One, numbered 148, was sold to E. R. Jones,  
through H. W. Fisher & Co. The other, No. 196,  
was sold to W. J. Campbell. I can furnish  
the Society Vols. II., III., and IV., of either of  
these numbers without breaking another set,  
and taking all the circumstances into  
consideration, for  $\$39.$  (net price  $\$45.$ ) and  
will prepay express charges besides.

After the holidays I shall go East again  
in the interest of my next volume, this  
time to Washington and Philadelphia,  
and hope to have the opportunity of  
making a personal examination of  
the Society's valuable collections  
at that time, and paying my respects

to you.

With all the best wishes of the  
Season, I am,

Yours, very truly  
Charles Evans

Mr. Dr. Benson  
Philadelphia